

CHAIRMAN: The report is before the house. Any discussion of it?

DR. STEPHENS: I want to say just one word as to tuberculosis. The worthy Secretary, in calling attention to the prevention of tuberculosis, speaks of education of the laity in regard to preventative measures. These things are matters of importance, but there is one thing even greater—the educating of the family physician in those things which are necessary to make early diagnosis. If the family physician is qualified to do this the education of the laity will follow. The family physician needs to have impressed upon him the fact that it is his duty to examine the sputum of a patient having a cough of more than one week. It is his duty to examine the chest carefully in every case of declining health and not let false ideas of modesty stand in the way. It is his duty to see that an examination is made. I would also suggest that the figures mentioned in the resolutions suggested by our worthy Secretary be changed to this effect. He mentions the fact that one-seventh of the deaths is due to tuberculosis. Our last census makes it between one-ninth and one-tenth, and the last census of our own State gives the figures as 11.15-100 per cent. of the total mortality of the State.

DR. ———: I wish to call attention to the fact that something should be done for the prevention of infection in the public institutions. This is a crying need and one in which the people of the State and the physicians should be interested. It is appalling to see the number of necessity infected in the public hospitals.

DR. PAQUIN: It is rather a source of congratulation to me that our Secretary has so emphasized the matter to which I called the attention of the Society on yesterday. It is the most important subject in the domain of medicine to-day. It is true that prevention is the key to the situation. The practical solution of this question is the great desideratum